



FUTURE - DENVER VA MEDICAL CENTER - AURORA, COLORADO

PROJECT EAGLE UPDATE

Monday, December 21, 2009

This week's Project Eagle Update focuses on the state-of-the art Spinal Cord Injury and Disease (SCI/D) Center at the Denver VAMC replacement facility. A special thanks to guest contributor Kaitlyn O'Hara, Government Relations Director at the Mountain States Chapter of the Paralyzed Veterans of America, for her input in this Project Eagle Update.

The SCI/D Center is located on the first floor of the North and South inpatient buildings, with patient rooms contained in the south building, allowing nearly all patients to stay in single patient rooms. The north building includes services such as exam rooms, a pharmacy, therapy pools, a gym and other amenities such as an internet room, and a horticulture therapy area. The Center will also include a full apartment to prepare patients for life once they leave the hospital.

In addition to state of the art treatment facilities inside the SCI/D Center, the SCI dedicated court yard between the two buildings provides recreation opportunities such as basketball, horseshoes; therapy opportunities such as wheelchair skills and horticulture; and areas for families to have BBQs and children to play.

Overall, the new SCI/D Center will make receiving health care services simply easier and more convenient for veterans. The SCI/D Center has a dedicated parking lot, a separate entrance from the main hospital entrance, and will allow for one-stop for nearly all the medical needs of veterans. Veterans will no longer need to travel great distances for their annual exams and will be able to utilize all of the features of the hospital without traveling to different medical facilities depending on the care they require. Most importantly, the new SCI/D Center will provide area veterans with top quality care that will enable veterans with spinal cord injuries to live healthy and active lives.

Progress report

- 70% of the old PX building is down and most of the debris and metal has been transported for disposal

Proposed tasks for this week

- Complete old PX building above ground demolition. Start concrete slab removal.
- Contractor will work 10 hour day for 12-21 through 12-23, and take 12-24 and 12-25 off.

Respectfully,

Jordan Schupbach
Public Affairs Officer
VA ECHCS

